

As a home consumer and as a software professional, I am disturbed by the continuous copyright demands Hollywood and the entertainment industry is trying to force down upon the average American in order to be able to receive digital content, especially HDTV content.

While I agree that distributors should be able to enjoy some form of copyright protection, I also feel that their demands squash the "fair use" rights of the average consumer. Additional copy protection on an already beleaguered product is not going to solve the problem; readily and available content to the public is the only way to stem off the threat of piracy.

By limiting my ability to record a program, be it in an analog or digital format, off of my television and onto a physical media device, such as a PVR/PC hard drive or a DVD-R disc, Hollywood and the networks are saying we, the vast American public, are criminals and cannot be trusted. I do not know how the rest of the members of the FCC or the American public at large feels about this but I resent being insinuated that I am a thief and need to have my "fair use" rights limited in such ways.

The entertainment community, both Hollywood and the music industry, has ample ammounts of copyright protection already afforded to them by Section 17 of US code of laws for legal recourse. More copy and DRM measures are not necessary. Provide content at a fair and reasonable price to the consumers and the threats of piracy would drop drastically.